

Society and Drama
In This Section

Sports and Pictures
In This Section

The Washington Times

DON'T BE A "MOUSE MAN"

Have you a spendthrift son, wife, daughter, husband or neighbor? Show him McCay's picture of the Hard Times cat.

Mr. McCay chooses well in picking a cat to represent Hard Times. For Hard Times approach quietly, in stealthy fashion, surprising the careless man as the cat, creeping on velvet pads, surprises the careless mouse.

Every mouse, seized and GONE, would pitifully squeak: "I should have been down my hole and safe long ago if I had only KNOWN that terrible cat was coming."

The mouse-sized man, when Hard Times seizes him, also squeaks: "I should have had things in order, money saved, expenses cut down, if I had KNOWN that Hard Times was creeping close to grab me."

It is too late for mouse and man when the cat of Hard Times ARRIVES.

Here you see the cat that sooner or later grabs all the foolish, reckless, thoughtless wasters of time, money and opportunity. This picture ought to be enough to make the fairly intelligent man prepare, without waiting for the cat to grab him.

There are many millions, unfortunately, to whom applies Benjamin Franklin's saying:

"Experience is a dear school, but fools will learn in no other."

The average mouse doesn't really believe that the cat has sharp claws, or long teeth, or that she CAN catch mice, until the cat has caught THAT PARTICULAR MOUSE.

The average man going along, solemnly meditating on the kind of hat, necktie or shoes he ought to buy, is incapable of realizing that the Hard Times cat is looking for HIM. For others, yes, but not for HIM. When the cat grabs him he knows all about it, and has a great deal to tell his friends about it by way of persuasion that it is their duty to free him from the cat, whereas it was HIS DUTY to keep away from that animal.

This is not a picture of anything that is going to happen to the nation as a whole. With our thousands of millions of old money, our many billions of new money, printed since the war began; with a nation in which the State of Texas alone could support the whole population, with our resources unlimited, we have no cause to worry, as long as men are willing to work.

And if they are not willing to work, a little growl from the cat in this picture will put them to work quickly enough.

This is not a picture for the whole population; not a general warning to look out for hard times. It is a picture for the INDIVIDUAL who wastes in the sunshine, weeps and pities himself in the shower.

When you study the big cat in Mr. McCay's picture, with the man of mouse-size running in terror from the crouching beast ready to spring, study also the little cat and full-sized man in the smaller picture.

The real man, able to think ahead, able to control himself and his foolishness, does not fear Hard Times. He saves a quarter of what he makes, and invests it SAFE IN THINGS THAT HE UNDERSTANDS, not in wild-cat foolishness. That consistent saving and wise investing makes him safe.

If this cat gets you, blame yourself, not the cat, and especially don't whine about "Never having had a chance."

Every man can be independent if he will, whether his earnings be big or average or small, excepting the man for whom many children or illness makes saving literally impossible. But that man is rare.

It is not taxes, or even the high cost of living, high rent, or anything else so much as pride and laziness that make man shrink to the size of a mouse running from the cat.

The same wise Franklin said it long ago: "Idleness and pride tax with a heavier hand than kings and parliaments. If we can get rid of the former, we may easily bear the latter."

When you say "idleness" you do not mean merely being out of work. Men actually out of work, for awhile, may do some thinking, planning and self-criticizing more valuable than the lost wages of a few weeks.

The real idler is the man who is LOAFING AT HIS JOB. And the really vain man is the fool who thinks his employer or something else outside of himself is to blame for the fact that he stands still.

The foolish idler is the ignorant young person who



Some Day or Other This Cat Will Chase YOU, or YOU Will Chase the Cat. If Is for You to Decide NOW Whether You Will Be a Mouse-Man Running from Hard Times, or a Full-Sized Man, Kicking That Cat Into the Next Lot.

Mr. McCay's Striking Picture Ought

to Make Men and Women Think, While Money Is Still Fairly Plentiful, and Old Age at Some Distance. On the Outside Men Are All of About the Same Size. In the Inside of the Skull, Where the WILL POWER Lives, the Difference in Size Is as Great as That Between a Big Man and a Small Mouse.

thinks that he is swindling his boss, when he does half a day's work; not having brains enough to know that he is swindling HIMSELF.

Does it pay to work hard, to put into a task at small wages the best that is in you? Ask any employer with experience what has become of the best workers he ever had

under him. He will tell you they are with him, at the head of the firm, getting their part of the profit, or they are out and gone, successful elsewhere for themselves. This applies to the hard workers in the business office and to hard workers in other lines.

Hard work will make men free everywhere. For instance, at Point Pleasant, New Jersey, two young men, Newman & Legg, own a greenhouse and nursery. Referring to one of his men, of German birth, one of the proprietors said, "There is the best worker I have ever had. And the next best worker is his wife, working near him."

Some haughty American born sovereigns probably looked with contempt on that couple, actually doing a double day's work for one day's pay, instead of half a day's work for a day's pay. But, go now and ask the employers where "the best worker I ever saw" can be found. He will tell you to go North along the coast until you come to a first-class looking nursery farm splendidly planted with flowers and young trees, with a hothouse growing rapidly. There you will find the "best worker I ever knew," and the next best worker, his wife, OWNING THE FARM, PROSPEROUS, INDEPENDENT, ABSOLUTELY SAFE AGAINST HARD TIMES, SINCE THEY CAN FEED THEMSELVES FROM THE GROUND.

You will find them still good workers, for that will last until they die. Thanks to their example, you will find their numerous brood of children also good workers, not waiting to be told twice, not imagining that the first duty of a father and mother is to make it unnecessary for a daughter or son to work.

In idleness and pride, especially the silly pride that makes a man approve of his own laziness, blaming anything but himself, you have the trouble that curses about sixty per cent of young Americans.

Approach any one of the idlers, doing as little as possible in return for their pay, thinking ten times as much about the next suit of clothes as about the success of the next ten years. Ask "What would you have done had you been a slave in the old days?"

The youthful time-waster will tell you that he would have run away from slavery. He would not have endured it. He would have gone to the swamps, risking bloodhounds and pursuers. He would have fled north to Canada, walking at night, hiding in the day, going hungry if necessary.

He will tell you in absolute earnestness, believing it, that he would have endured every hardship and danger to escape slavery.

Then ask him, "What is the difference between slavery that keeps you just where you were, your owner supplying food, clothing and a bed, and the other slavery on a salary basis caused by idleness and pride, that keeps you just where you were, the employer giving you money enough for the time being for food, clothing and a bed?"

The old slavery was better. Public opinion and common decency wouldn't allow the slave owner to turn the old slave out into the street to die.

The average slave owner before the war took better care of his slaves than the average salaried mouse-man of today does of himself.

This picture asks the young idlers, the mouse-men that the Hard Times cat will get one day, "Why haven't you the energy to run away from your present miserable, unworthy condition, no matter how far or how hard you have to run?"

Slavery is slavery. It was slavery when the owner could say to the negro sixty years old, "Go down there and pick cotton." It is slavery when the employer is able to say to the man of sixty who has idled away his life, "Go down there, stand at the desk all day and do what I tell you."

The man who in youth hasn't ambition, energy, self control, saving power and will to make himself independent of the wage slavery of old age, has not derived much benefit from a country that was established to CREATE INDEPENDENCE.

Don't be a mouse-man waiting for the Hard Times cat to get you.

Make yourself man's size by using the WILL power in the back of your head, and be ready for the cat when it comes. It isn't hard to become a free man.

Get rid of idleness and vanity, idleness while working that keeps a man from advancing, and vanity that makes a man approve himself as a failure, whereas even the most successful have the best of reasons for disapproving and criticizing themselves always.

HEARD AND SEEN IN WASHINGTON

By BILL PRICE

If an American picked up an Englishman and threw him to a Frenchman, would you call that "A Yank throwing the Bull to a Frog?" You tell 'em, pool table, when I give you the cue.

THOMAS D. N. ALLEN.

From the word "forgetting" we can get seven words without transposition—for, or, forge, forget, get, tin and in.

Regarding the dress of young men, W. P. VALIANI quotes our old friend Chesterfield as having written this: "A man of sense dresses well, and in the same manner, as the people of sense and fashion of the place where

he is. If he dresses better as he thinks—that is more than they—he is a fop; if he dresses worse, he is unpardonably negligent. But of the two, I would rather have a young fellow too much than too little dressed. The excess on that side will wear off with a little age and reflection, but if he is negligent at twenty, he will be a sloven at forty and abominable at fifty years old."

HERE IS A PROBLEM, SURE.

A man went into a shoe store and purchased a pair of shoes for \$4.50. He tendered the proprietor a \$10 bill but the latter was unable to change it, so went next door to a cigar store and after getting change returned and gave the \$12.50 change to the

customer. A few minutes after the latter had departed the cigar store man came in and said that the \$10 bill was counterfeit and demanded his \$10 in good money. Now, if the shoe store man gave him the \$10 who was the loser and how much did they lose?

H. H. F.

H AND S ACROSTIC

Have you read Heard and Seen Each evening in The Times. And conned its problems clean. Hanged with pun and witty rhymes? Do you know it's a source of pleasure. And gives valued information? New topics in unstinted measure. Dealt out to all creation? So if you would like straight news. Every day from minds quite keen. Enroll at once and be of use. Neath the banner of "Heard and Seen."

HENRY F. SMITH.

TO A YOUNG LEAGUE OF NATIONS. If you can throttle War, Which kings and statesmen, For centuries have made a household pet; If you can banish peace, With all men doubting, And teach them doubt and rancor to for- get.

If you can make the governments and peoples, With all their envy, jealousies and greed, To work with unity and common purpose For common justice and for common need; If you can teach the German (slightly humbled)

Who yesterday for World dominion fought, Who late with brutal arrogance demanded, To frame petitions, prefaced, "May I not; If you persuade the rampant Bolshevik! That Liberty and Order are the same; Yours is a worried Earth's keen approbation. But if you fail, who's to blame?"

A. W. MCKAY.

"Lefty Luke" sends me a drawing

of the dismembered remains of an F street lizard who "knocked" H and S. He adds a skull and cross bones as a warning to other "complainers."

Well, "Lefty," don't be too hard on 'em.

YOUR ADAM'S APPLE. That curious freak, the Adam's apple, which many people have and do not want, is not removable by any safe process yet mentioned by H and S fans, and when they are unable to solve a problem there's not much use trying any further.

Find the words that fit in the in-

serts, each word to be of different meaning: A — sat in his — gray. Watching the — of moonbeams play On a jug of rum that near him lay. Thou — the mighty, Thou — the strong, To thee the — of battles belong. Oh, John Barley Corn!

W. G. P.

If a profiteer were asked, "When will you have enough?" he would answer glibly with this tongue twister: "When the sea ceaseth its surge, it will suffice us."

C. H.

If a lady should fall into a gutter would a vacuum cleaner?

H. AND S. IS WIDE OPEN. Is Heard and Seen open to certain persons only? E. L. W.

H and S is wide open to anybody with inclination to write short, bright paragraphs on local subjects. Hundreds of people write this column and enjoy it. The printing of these communications is often delayed. Your name and address are required as evidence of good faith.

EDITOR.

BEATS THE BRONCHOS.

"They tell me," he said, sorrowfully, "that riding a broncho is the hardest thing on earth, but have you ever tried riding the water wagon?"

D.

There's a crow's nest in Dupont Circle, and since the crow is not insectivorous is there any harm in relieving the old girl of her eggs? M. H.

Once a fellow named Tate, Dined with his girl at 8:08. But said to relate I can't quite state What Tate and his tete-a-tete Ate at 8:08. L. A. D.

FOR THE INFANT CLASS. What is it that George Washington seldom saw and we see every day? What shoemaker makes shoes without leather. With all the four elements together? Fire, water, earth and air. Every customer has two pairs? A riddle, whose answer is lacking. Can you supply it? MISS S. B. B.